United States History II: WWII in the Pacific

Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

The Pacific Campaign: A Webquest

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**Instruction:** While the war was raging in Europe, the Americans were just as focused on the Japanese threat in the Pacific. Today, you will be researching 7 of the most important events and battles of the Pacific Theater in World War II. All of the answers can be found on the website listed for each event.

**Baatan Death March** - [http://www.eyewitnesstohistory.com/bataandeathmarch.htm](http://dnn.epcc.edu/nwlibrary/borderlands/25/bataan.htm)

1. How long after the attack on Pearl Harbor did the attack on the Philippines come? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

2. How many American troops were defending the Baatan Peninsula? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. When were they finally forced to surrender? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

3. How many men survived the march to the POW camp? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ out of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

4. Describe some of the atrocities committed by the Japanese during the march. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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5. Why do you think the Americans were treated so poorly by the Japanese? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**Battle of Midway** -<http://militaryhistory.about.com/od/worldwari1/p/Midway.htm>

1. How did the Americans learn of the planned attack on Midway Island? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

2. The Battle of Midway marked the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of World War II in the Pacific.

3. What were the two reasons Admiral Yamamoto chose to attack Midway? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

4. What occurred at 10:22 in the morning? Why was it significant? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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5. What was the significance of the Japanese defeat at Midway? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**Battle of Guadalcanal** - <http://www.nationalww2museum.org/learn/education/for-students/ww2-history/at-a-glance/guadalcanal.html>

1. The Landing at Guadalcanal was the first American \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of World War II.

2. What did the American marines struggle against for 6 months? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

4. In the end, what key substance did the battle come down to? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

5. During the Battle of Guadalcanal, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ began to give the U.S. a stronger advantage over the Japanese ino he Pacific. 67. The Solomon Islands were the first of many islands taken during the brutal strategy of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ which drove the Japanese back toward Tokyo.

**Battle of Leyte Gulf** -<http://militaryhistory.about.com/od/worldwari1/p/leytegulf.htm>

1. What were the dates of the battle? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

2. What was the goal of the battle? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

3. Between the Japanese and the American fleets, which fleet was stronger? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Why do you think this? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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4. For what two reasons was the Battle of Leyte Gulf significant? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**Battle of Iwo Jima** -<http://www.military.com/NewContent/0,13190,NI_Iwo_Jima2,00.html>

1. Of the 3,400 marines in Major General Fred Hayes’ group, how many were left standing at the end of the battle? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

2. How many Americans were wounded or killed in the battle? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ And the Japanese? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_

3. Why did one American soldier describe the Japanese as “not on Iwo Jima, but in it?” \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

4. Read the individual accounts of the battle, as told by the men who were there. Which soldier’s story resonated with you the most? Why? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**Battle of Okinawa** -<http://www.globalsecurity.org/military/facility/okinawa-battle.htm>

1. How many Americans were killed in the battle? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Wounded? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

2. How many Japanese soldiers were killed? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ How many Japanese civilians were killed (estimated)? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

3. What began on March 18, 1945? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

4. What was the “storm of steel?” \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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5. Why did the Japanese not defend the beaches, and instead dig in to caves in the highlands? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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6. What was the battleship *Yamato’s* mission? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

7. What two pieces of “dramatic news” did the Americans get during the course of the battle? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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8. Instead of surrender, what did many of the Japanese soldiers do? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

9. What were the Americans planning on using Okinawa for? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Hiroshima and Nagasaki** -<http://www.english.illinois.edu/MAPS/poets/g_l/levine/bombing.htm>

1. Why did the USAAF choose Hiroshima as its target? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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2. What was the name of the B-29 that dropped the bomb on Hiroshima? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

3. Using the data given, how powerful was the blast? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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4. What is the newest estimate of deaths at Hiroshima? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Of those who survived, what were some of the problems they experienced? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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5. About how many people died at Nagasaki? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

6. Look at the pictures below. Of these, which one resonated with you the most? Explain. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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